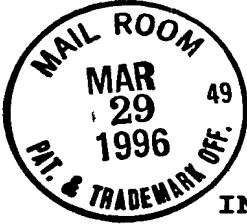


*Election
Response
C.W. 4-4-96*



501.25507CX5

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s): O. YOKOMIZO, et al

Serial No.: 08/470,424

Filed: June 6, 1995

For: FUEL ASSEMBLY AND NUCLEAR REACTOR

Group: 2204

Examiner: H. Behrend

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GROUP 2200

RESPONSE

Honorable Commissioner of
Patents and Trademarks
Washington, D.C. 20231

March 29, 1996

Sir:

The following remarks are respectfully submitted in connection with the above-identified application in response to the Office Action dated February 29, 1996.

The requirement for election of one of the patentably distinct species identified as I, II and III as set forth in paragraph 1 at page 2 of the Office Action dated February 29, 1996, and the subsequent requirement for election of one of the following disclosed species identified as A-J as set forth in paragraph 2 at pages 2 and 3 of the Office Action, are traversed, and reconsideration and withdrawal of the election of species requirements are respectfully requested.

At the outset, the Examiner notes that currently, claim 1 appears generic, such that generic claims are present in this application and upon allowance of a generic claims, claims